

in the fight to keep foreign items made by use of child labor being kept out of the country. He must not let the issue die with that. We need the U.S. to put money into the United Nations for inspections of shops around the world, as well as more money into the U.S. Department of Labor to increase inspections and sanctions right here at home. We also need laws that include prevention of any sweatshop products from being imported into the country.

BRIAN HODGSON: Although none of us on this earth actually choose to support these institutions by buying products without thinking of the effects, we do support them. If we keep buying these tainted goods, if a company involved with sweatshop labor continues to make a profit, then they will not give a thought to what they are doing, and these violations of justice will go on. We must take the time to research safe labor organizations. We must take the time to look at clothing labels. We must make sacrifices in order that these violations do not continue. By being educated, we can help workers in other countries and in our own get the rights they need and deserve.

STATEMENT BY NEALE GAY AND LIZ ROCHELEAU REGARDING EDUCATION AND WAGES

NEALE GAY: My name is Neal Gay and this is Liz Rocheleau.

Let us start by thank you for your time. We will be discussing what we consider to be a wage problem plaguing the United States. In this land of opportunity, dreams cannot be realized as socioeconomic, classes are divided into two groups, the haves and the have-nots. We do not need a faction that is able to control the wealth and prosperity of an entire nation due to their personal and immense wealth. We readily admit that those with higher education may be better suited for management jobs; chances are they worked hard to attain dreams, like becoming CEO of a billion dollar company. But those that work under them are not given an opportunity to earn much more than a living wage.

LIZ ROCHELEAU: Since 1979, blue collar workers earning a wage at or after the 20th percentile have seen their wages drop an astonishing 11.8 percent. These wages are still going down, and even though minimum wage has increased numerous times in recent history, inflation makes this increase not at all worthwhile. Even more interesting, though, those earning a wage in the top ten percentile are the only ones who have seen an increase at all. We see this as a case of the rich getting richer, and the middle class and the poor quickly descending the economic scale.

NEALE GAY: Marx and Engels wrote in *The Communist Manifesto*, "Of all the classes that stand face to face with the bourgeois today, the proletariat alone is a really revolutionary class. The other classes decay, and finally disappear in the race of modern industry. The proletariat is its special and essential product." If we take this as true, that the worker has more worth than the industrialist due to their work, then shouldn't the worker get a reasonable compensation for his output?

LIZ ROCHELEAU: We are not talking about a revolution. We understand that the Federal Government can't put a cap on what people earn, since capitalism grants private industry. What we want to know from you is: What has the government done to make wage distribution just, and what are their plans for the future?

Congressman SANDERS: All right. Very interesting.

DAVID WALKER

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, on July 6, the Nature Coast of Florida lost a longtime resident and advocate—David Walker.

For years, Dave Walker sought to balance economic development with environmental concerns in a changing Citrus County.

Dave Walker was an informed constituent who based his positions on facts. When he had something on his mind, he took the time to let me know his views.

He was always a gentleman who conducted himself in a professional manner. Soft-spoken, he nonetheless always got his point across; and you had to respect him, even if you disagreed with his position.

No person could question his integrity or commitment. All in all, you had to like and respect Dave Walker. He was indeed a great guy.

I want to express my condolences to his wife of 57 years Catherine, and to his children, grandchildren, and his great-grandchild on their loss.

For the RECORD, I would like to include an article from the Citrus Times and an editorial from the Citrus County Chronicle.

[From the Citrus Chronicle, July 10, 1998]

WALKER WILL LEAVE LEGACY OF INTEGRITY

There is a force in some men and women that sets them apart from other mortals, a fine force that others can see, discern and react to very naturally and without question.

David Walker, who passed away this week, was such a man of character.

Walker had a reserved force of character within him, a fierce force of honest integrity that infused his every action and word. He came to serve us and protect the public interest at just the right time.

Ten years ago this county stood to slide into a sad slough of unrestrained cancerous growth, a development that appeared to be inexorable. That growth threatened to overlay the natural beauties of this gorgeous green portion of Florida with one long serpentine stretch of asphalt and glaring storefront glass.

Citrus County was being sucked into a pattern of unbridled development that aimed to tear up and destroy irreplaceable wetlands in order to construct such things as apartment houses and parking lots.

Walker, along with a handful of other dedicated conservationists and environmentalists, or so these dedicated citizens were labeled, stood up to speak against such development, to speak for the greater good.

He listened to others and he worked unstintingly to build a consensus. Largely due to who he was, through the force of his character and his admirable ability to calmly discuss the facts without recourse to shrill emotion, he was able to convince decision-makers that it was unwise to allow such growth for short-term private profit.

Walker devoted countless hours to help draft a development plan for the county that would protect our natural resources while allowing more reasonable and thoughtful growth. With the same vision and drive, he worked on many other boards too, to the same end.

In his life, in his long service to his government as an agent of the FBI, and in his sub-

sequent service to the people of this county and state, Walker was a true patriot.

This county owes a great debt to David Walker, a man who was guided always by granite-hard principles of morality. He was truly a man you could learn from and look up to. His works and his memory will live on.

[From the Citrus Times, July 8, 1998]

LONGTIME ACTIVIST IN COUNTY DIES AT 82

(By Josh Zimmer)

The 1980s were boom times for Citrus County, a rural area experiencing the throes of development as well as the threatening consequences to the environment.

While both forces fought for pre-eminence, David Walker, a former FBI agent, fur trapper and wildlife photographer, did what few thought could have been done:

He found common ground.

Mr. Walker, formerly of Floral City, died Monday (July 6, 1998) in Tampa. He was 82.

Tuesday, Mr. Walker was remembered as a uniquely well-versed, open-minded person who could bridge development and environmental interests.

"I think he set the example for community activists engaging in a reasonable approach to improving our county," said Citrus County Commissioner Jim Fowler, who was a private business owner when he met Mr. Walker at planning meetings. "He could see several sides to an issue."

Mr. Walker, a vibrant public speaker who suffered from Parkinson's disease in recent years, was a "a perfect gentleman," Fowler said.

Mr. Walker, who moved closer to his daughter in Tampa in May, was born in South Portland, Maine. According to friends, he enjoyed recounting his youthful days spent in the state's vast woods, where he later became a fur trapper.

In 1940, he embarked on a long career with the FBI, which ended in 1966 and provided him with additional fodder for his storytelling abilities.

In addition, Mr. Walker was widely traveled, raising a family and holding onto a close marriage all the while.

"I would consider myself to have had a very successful life if I did one-quarter of what David Walker did. The man was remarkable," said Gary Maidhof, interim director of the county's Department of Development Services. Despite his hard-bitten law enforcement background, Maidhof said, "He could go on at length about a bluebird nest he established in his backyard."

One of Mr. Walker's great skills as a conservationist was attention to detail, remembered Maidhof, who said he got to know Mr. Walker through their work together on the county's first comprehensive development plan, approved in the mid-1980s, and other committees.

The plan, which guides development throughout the county, bears Mr. Walker's strong imprint, he said.

"That is a reflection to many of his influences," Maidhof said.

Another favorite cause of Mr. Walker's was conservation, and he actively supported land acquisitions, such as Jordan Ranch and Potts Preserve, Maidhof said.

In later years, as his health failed, Mr. Walker remained keenly interested in environmental issues, such as flood plain maps and ecosystem management "I would receive a phone call or a letter if there was an issue he felt strongly about," Maidhof said.

Friends said Mr. Walker struggled with poor health and the toll it took on Catherine, his wife of 57 years. In recent months,

he required help getting in and out of a wheelchair, said former Citrus Commissioner Hank Cohen.

Cohen and his wife, Miriam, visited Mr. Walker in Tampa less than two weeks ago. Mr. Walker's voice was so weak that he wrote his words on paper instead of speaking, Cohen remembered.

Catherine, who is older than Mr. Walker, wheeled him to the window for what turned out to be a last farewell.

"That was a hard," Cohen said, his voice breaking. "We could see him wave through. He waved to us, we waved back. We knew that would be last we saw him."

GOLD STAR AWARDS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the Matagorda County 4-H will hold an awards program on the 20th of August and this is a very important event Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I have, in the past, pointed out how important an organization 4-H truly is for those of us who were raised on farms and who represent agricultural communities. As I have said in the past Mr. Speaker, one of the primary missions that this organization undertakes is agricultural education. I believe that this mission is so critical that, earlier this year, I introduced a bill which would exempt the sale of livestock by those involved in educational activities such as FFA and 4-H from federal income taxation. By making young men and women who participate in these activities hire a group of tax accountants and attorney we are sending the wrong message. Young people who sell livestock at county fairs and the like should be rewarded for taking self initiative and allowed to keep the money they've earned to help pay for their education or to re-invest in other animals to raise. My bill would eliminate the current policy of forcing these youngsters to visit the tax man.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the following winners of the Gold Star, the highest award possible at the county level, for achievements in competition at state levels, leadership ability, community service and years of service. They are: Kim Evans, Courtney Wallis and Lindsey Kubecka. Again, I want to commend these young people for their achievements.

TO COMMEMORATE THE OPENING OF CHARTER SCHOOLS IN PEM- BROKE PINES, FLORIDA

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the City of Pembroke Pines for responding to our community's concerns regarding the education of our youth. In an effort to ease some of the overcrowding and to better prepare students for the challenges they will face in the new millennium, the City of Pembroke Pines has taken the bold initiative of creating the nation's first elementary charter

school owned and operated by a municipality. On August 29, 1998, Mayor Alex Fekete, Vice Mayor Frank Ortis, City Manager Charles Dodge, and Commissioners William Armstrong and Susan Katz will proudly participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony for this innovative educational facility which represents the first fruition of their vision for greater educational opportunity in South Florida.

As members of the school's advisory board, along with the school principal, parents, and business representatives, they will oversee the day-to-day operation of the school in a partnership that will, as Mayor Fekete so nicely states, "bring education back closer to the people." The school will focus on the core disciplines and modern educational technology. Perhaps more importantly, it will emphasize character development as well as parental and community involvement.

To ensure a nurturing ambiance conducive to intellectual, emotional, and social development, class size will be limited to a maximum of 25 students, and a fully accredited teacher as well as a teacher's aide will be assigned to each class. The school will deliver high quality education while being more cost effective than other schools managed by the district. The per student station cost for the Pembroke Pines Charter School comes to \$8,600 in contrast to the \$13,000 per station average for the state schools.

I commend the efforts of these elected officials, Mayor Alex Fekete, Vice Mayor Frank Ortis, City Manager Charles Dodge, and Commissioners William Armstrong and Susan Katz, who dared to take a step in a new direction. The rest of our country will be closely watching the progress of this new educational alternative and may soon follow the innovative lead of these municipal officials. I share in their excitement because this Charter School provides another creative option for public education. Our future resides in our children, and our schools must commit themselves to excellence as they strive to better prepare them for the next century.

F-1 STUDENTS

HON. BILL MCCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to give American high schools the ability to welcome foreign exchange students into their schools without requiring them to charge tuition. I am pleased to be joined by my colleagues, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. PICKETT of Virginia.

It was brought to my attention that individual schools which participate in informal programs to allow foreign exchange students to attend school in the U.S. are required to charge these same students tuition. The F-1 visa is for students who seek to enter the U.S. temporarily and solely to pursue a course of study. Under existing law, even if the school and the local school district do not want to charge the student for accepting an invitation to study in the U.S., the student will not be able to receive an F-1 visa without paying the fee. In some cases, the school, which otherwise would welcome a foreign exchange student, may be deterred from allowing them to

attend due to the administrative burden of administering the fee. In other cases, American schools entering into informal sister-school exchanges with a foreign school may find that they are forced to charge the foreign student tuition while the American student is attending their sister-school for free.

This tuition requirement does not apply to foreign students who come to the U.S. to study in a program designated by the Director of the United States Information Agency (USIA). These students receive a J visa and are not required to reimburse the school for the cost of their attendance. On the other hand, foreign exchange students in the U.S. under an F-1 visa are usually attending school under informal arrangements, with a teacher or parent having invited them to spend time in the U.S. as a gesture of American hospitality and goodwill. Some schools participate in informal sister-school exchanges where one of their students will go abroad and the school in turn will sponsor a foreign student here. Although these are informal, flexible, private arrangements between schools and students that are not designated by the USIA, they are no less valuable in developing goodwill and greater understanding among people of different nations. In many cases, it simply does not make sense to charge tuition to foreign exchange students simply because they have an F-1 visa rather than a J visa.

The legislation I am introducing today will give schools the ability to have the Attorney General waive the F-1 visa tuition fee requirement. Schools that certify that the waiver will promote the educational interest of the local educational agency and will not impose an undue financial burden on the agency will be able to allow foreign exchange students to attend without charging a fee. On the other hand, schools that do not want to waive the fee will still be able to collect it. This legislation will simply give schools added flexibility to sponsor foreign exchange students without limiting the right of schools to collect needed fees. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

MR. STARR DEPARTS HIS PRI- VATE PRACTICE FAR TOO LATE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr announced his decision to take an unpaid leave of absence from his partnership at the well known law firm of Kirkland & Ellis. This decision has been a long time in coming: Mr. Starr's work with his law firm was often a direct conflict of interest with his work as Independent Counsel.

Mr. Starr had been earning up to one million per year and sometimes more for his services as a partner in the firm. Whether or not this steady source of income from private practice allowed him the luxury to drag on an investigation that is going into its fifth year and has cost American taxpayers more than forty million is a matter that is not entirely clear. In the meantime, Mr. Starr has taken on additional law clients and handled their legal matters notwithstanding criticism from some of his allies